

**Thursday, September 17, 2020 from 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM (EST)**

**Virtual via WebEX**

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**Where is the Love? Why isn't Nuclear Power Embraced as THE Clean Energy Source?**



**Mary Lou Dunzik-Gougar, PhD**

**Idaho State University, Center for Advanced Energy Studies**

**Presenter and Topic:**

Dr. Mary Lou Dunzik-Gougar is Associate Dean of the College of Science and Engineering at Idaho State University. She has a PhD in nuclear engineering and MS in environmental engineering from Penn State University and a BS in chemistry from Cedar Crest College. Her nuclear career spans 25 years, during which time she has performed research in various aspects of the nuclear fuel cycle, including waste form development, spent fuel pyroprocessing, spent particle fuel qualification for disposal, fuel and material development and characterization (pre- and post-irradiation), development of a waste minimization plan for a next generation nuclear reactor design, and fuel cycle modeling. Dr. Dunzik-Gougar's research has led to national and

international collaborations, including a year-long position with PBMR Ltd in South Africa and a consulting contract with EDF energy of France. She has served as consultant/ subject matter expert for subsequent projects coordinated by the European Commission and the International Atomic Energy Agency. She has led multi-institutional teams of researchers at the Idaho National Laboratory and through Idaho State University. To share her expertise with a new generation of researchers, Dr. Dunzik-Gougar developed and teaches several senior/graduate level courses on the nuclear fuel cycle and radioactive waste management. In addition to her scholarly and technical supports, she has been an active member of the American Nuclear Society (ANS) at local and national levels for 25 years. In 2019, she was elected to serve as Vice-President/President Elect for ANS and she began her term as President in late June 2020.

Nuclear power has maintained about a 20-percent share of the total annual generation of electricity in the US for three decades. It's proven to be a safe, reliable, scalable, and clean source of electricity. Yet only one new reactor has come online in the US in the last quarter-century and new power plant closings have recently been announced. Dr. Dunzik-Gougar's presentation will focus on (1) why environmentalists, those concerned about climate change, have not embraced nuclear power despite the fact that it emits no greenhouse gases, and (2) what proponents of nuclear power can do to raise the awareness of the benefits of nuclear power.

**WebEX Details:**

We understand that for many this may be the first time using the WebEx platform, if you have any questions feel free to reach out to myself or our VA-ANS chair, Walter Perry.

**What is WebEX?** WebEx is a video and audio platform for conferencing and webinars. The meeting can be accessed from your computer or cell phone (via phone call or video conference option).